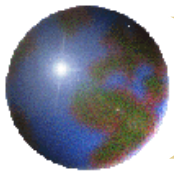


# ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

Various types of work platforms are used on our project sites on a daily basis and when used correctly they can provide a ***“SAFE MEANS OF ACCESS”***. Prior to selecting the appropriate work platform we first need to review the scope of work such as anticipated working heights, duration of the work, materials or equipment needed to accomplish the task, location/size of the work space, provision for safe access, fall protection, etc. Then we need to identify the anticipated hazards such as falling from work platform during egress or ingress, falling from the working level on the work platform, work platform component or structure failure, electrical shock, etc. and select the appropriate work platform that will provide ***“SAFE ACCESS”***. Finally, we need to ensure the controls are being implemented and supervision provided.



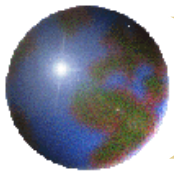


# ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

**The most common types of work platforms found on our project sites are metal tube type scaffolds and elevated work platforms (i.e., Manlifts or Scissors Lifts).**





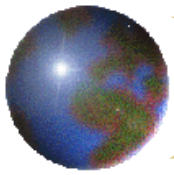


## ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

**“Safety” does not end once you select the type of work platform to be used on the project site. The following are some of the basic items to look for whenever there are work platforms on our project sites:**

- **Does the Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA)/ORM address work in elevated areas and provisions for access and fall protection?**
- **Are the controls being implemented to abate or minimize the anticipated hazards?**
- **Does the work site have adequate supervision to ensure the controls are being implemented on the project site?**
- **Does the work site have designated Competent Personnel (CP) for the erection, dismantling, moving, or alteration of work platforms?**
- **Do the work platforms have standard guardrails in accordance with COE EM 385-1-1 para 22.A.02.b?**

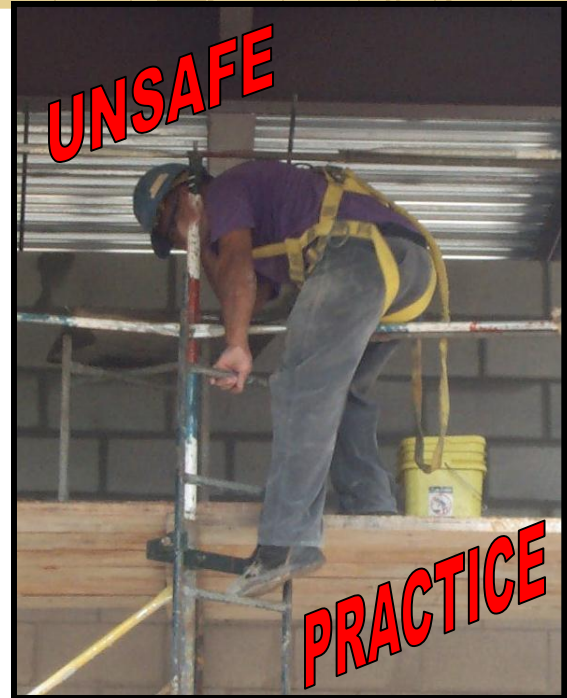


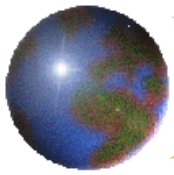


## ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

- Safe access shall be provided for work platforms. The climbing between the top and mid rails for access or egress is considered to be a unsafe practice.
- Working levels shall be fully decked or planked.
- Does the work platform have a safe mean of access such as a ladder, external or internal stairway, etc.?
- Are personnel operating manlifts or scissors lifts designated qualified operators?
- Does the KTR have documentation/records of the daily checks/tests of the various work platforms in accordance with manufacture specifications/owner's manual?

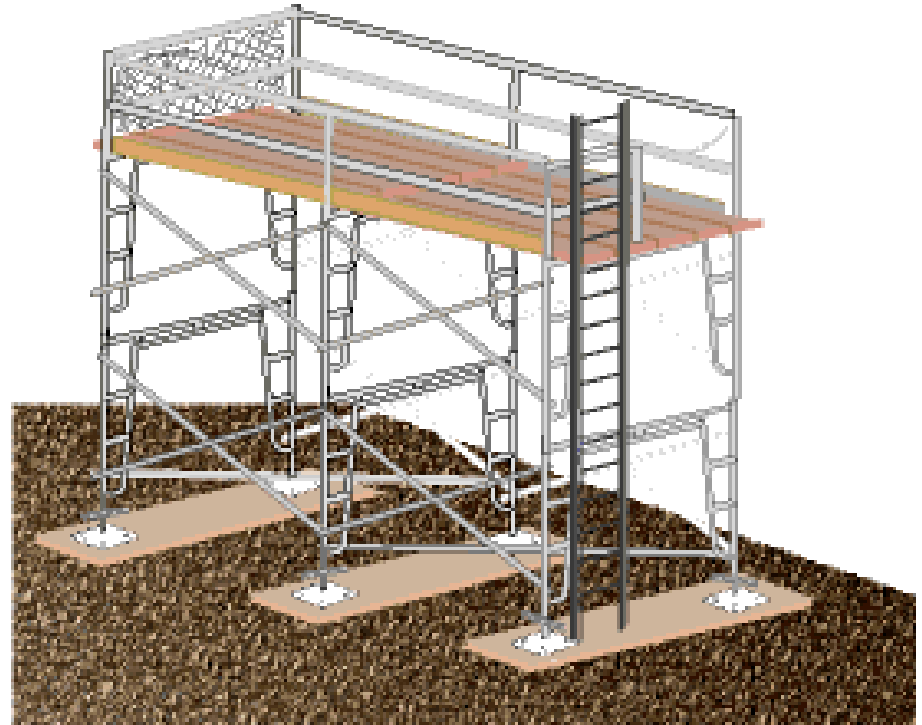
**Grade all and front end loader are supporting the manlift from tipping over.**

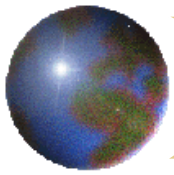




## ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

- ❖ **Fabricated frame scaffolds are the most common type of scaffold because they are versatile, economical, and easy to use**
- ❖ **Note access ladder and frame opening with chain for safe access and egress from platform**





# ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETYADVISORY***

- ❖ **Scaffold Access Gate**
- ❖ **Access area at entrance needs to clear and unobstructed**





## ***Frame Scaffold – OSHA Interpretation Letter***

February 6, 1997

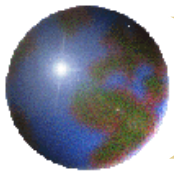
Assistant Manager Safety  
XYZ Constructors Inc.  
P.O. Box  
Philadelphia, PA 19101-8223

Dear Mr. :

This is in response to your telefax of October 22, regarding the applicability of an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) letter of interpretation (dated April 7, 1987) concerning **"equivalent safe access"** (see section 1926.451(a)(13) of the old standard) as it relates to scaffolds, in light of the recently revised standard for scaffolds used in the construction industry (61 FR 46026).

As you know, section 1926.451(e) of the revised standard addresses the requirements for access to scaffolds. The revised standard no longer uses the term "equivalent safe access," nor does it explicitly address the matter of climbing over or through guardrails as constituting unsafe access. Unobstructed access to the platform is an important component of safe access and therefore, OSHA recommends that provisions for safe access be made in all guardrail systems. Moreover, ***the practice of climbing over or through guardrails is widely regarded by the industry to be hazardous***, when particular circumstances on a jobsite make clear the existence of a serious hazard, ***OSHA would consider issuing a Citation under the General Duty Clause of the OSH Act.***





## ***BASIC WORK PLATFORM SAFETY ADVISORY***

- **Is the planking extended over their end supports not less than 6 inches (unless planking is manufactured with retaining hooks or equivalent means) nor more than 12 inches?**
- **Does the work platform have base plates and sills that would provide adequate foundation?**
- **Are the work platforms plumb and level? Note: Refer to manufacture specifications or operator's manual for maximum slope for manlifts or scissors lifts.**
- **Does the work site have the manufacture instructions/owner's manual for the various work platforms onsite?**
- **Refer to COE EM 385-1-1 Section 21 and 22 for additional requirements for fall protection and work platforms safety or contact our office for assistance.**

